

## Message Text

SECRET

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42

ORIGIN SS-10

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:MTANNER

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P 211852Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

SECRET STATE 118678 TOSEC 010145

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, SECDEF, INFO NEW DELHI,  
PORT LOUIS, CANBERRA, MAY 20, FROM LONDON RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE SECRET LONDON 07618

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, XO, UK, US

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA

1. DURING MY CALL ON FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN MAY 19  
I NOTED THAT A PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION ON DEIGO  
GARCIA HAD BEEN SENT TO THE CONGRESS. WE WERE AWARE OF  
THE BRITISH VIEW ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF TALKS WITH THE  
SOVIETS ABOUT ARMS CONTROL IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, AND I  
THEREFORE WANTED TO EXPLAIN THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEW  
THAT WE SHOULD PRESENT THE MATTER TO THE CONGRESS BEFORE  
ENTERTAINING THE IDEA OF TALKS WITH THE RUSSIANS. THE  
ADMINISTRATION FELT THAT IN THE POST-VIETNAM ATMOSPHERE  
IT WAS UNDESIRABLE AT THIS TIME TO MAKE AN APPROACH TO  
THE RUSSIANS. DCM NOTED THAT THERE WERE INDICATIONS  
THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDE ON DIEGO GARCIA MIGHT BE  
CHANGING.

2. CALLAGHAN SAID HE HOPED THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTAND-  
ING OF THE BRITISH POSITION. THEY HAD NOT EXPECTED THE

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US TO HOLD UP THE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION UNTIL WE HAD

MADE AN APPROACH TO THE RUSSIANS. IN HIS VIEW THERE  
WAS NO REASON WHY THE /PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION SHOULD  
NOT GO FORWARD IN PARALLEL WITH DISCUSSIONS WITH THE  
RUSSIANS. INDICATING THAT THE INDIAN OCEAN HAD BEEN  
DISCUSSED AT THE JAMAICA COMMONWEALTH MEETING, CALLAGHAN  
SAID THAT HE COULD COPE WITH PRESSURES FROM THE  
AUSTRALIANS WHO HAD ORIGINALLY PROPOSED ARMS LIMITATION  
INITIATIVES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. HE WOULD, HOWEVER,  
LIKE TO SEE THE US GET INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RU-  
SIANS. IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO WORK OUT SOME KIND OF  
LIMITATION WITH THE USSR SAY ON "SHIP DAYS" THE CONCERNS  
OF THE COUNTRIES AROUND THE INDIAN OCEAN WOULD BE EASED.  
IN THIS CONNECTION HE SAID THAT RAMGOOLAM AND MRS.  
GANDHI HAD PRIVATELY INDICATED THAT SOMETHING OF THIS  
NATURE WOULD BE HELPFUL, AND THEY INDICATED THAT THEY  
APPRECIATED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN NOT BEING  
UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE NAVY OF ONE COUNTRY.

RICHARDSON UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, POLICIES, TOSEC 10145, DIEGO GARCIA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 MAY 1975  
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**Decapton Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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